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CLASSIFICATION SECRETSECURITY INFORMATION
REPORT NO. COUNTRY East GermanyTOPIC Military Information from Frankfurt/OderEVALUATION see belowPLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED PARED 4 November 1953REFERENCES PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS

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SOURCE

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1. On 6 October 1953, the Ziethen Kaserne in Frankfurt/Oder, as previously, was occupied about 33 percent by about 1,000 troops including uniformed women, wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and tank insignia. On 26 September, about 80 soldiers entered the barracks installation, coming from the direction of Muellrose. On 29 September, about 200 troops were seen in the barracks yard, lined up for an arms inspection, while about 80 troops practiced throwing of hand grenades in the area near the water tower, about 30 troops received instruction on mortars west of the installation and about 30 uniformed women engaged in physical training in the barracks yard. On 5 October, 2 light armored scout cars were seen entering the installation, coming from the direction of Muellrose.

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2. On 6 October, the Eichhorn Kaserne was occupied as previously by about 1,500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery, tank and motor transport insignia and, a few, black-bordered crimson, blue-bordered black and black-bordered blue epaulets. A few officers with blue caps and cap bands were also observed. The installation was occupied about 55 percent.

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3. On 6 October, about 60 to 70 naval officers and naval personnel carrying rucksacks and armed with carbines left Frankfurt/Oder toward Kuestrin aboard a passenger train. At 7:45 a.m. on 6 October, about 150 to 170 recruits wearing red-bordered black epaulets arrived at the

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4. Between 8 and 16 October, source determined that units from the following military installations got coal from the Kech in Frankfurt/Oder: the Birnbaumuehle Hotel, Fahnhoef Hotel, Artillerie Kaserne, Buelow Kaserne, Horn Kaserne, Ziethen Kaserne and Hindenburg Kaserne.

5. On 12 October, 125 bedsteads for officers for Unit No 23 were picked up at the Kech furniture depot. On 13 October, 20 bed-side tables, wardrobes and fire brigade equipment were picked up for Unit No 86 and, on 15 October, 40 box-type windows were picked up at the joiner's shop and hauled to Lieberose

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6. On 16 October, the Horn Kaserne was occupied by about 300 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. During the night on 8 October, noises of tank engines were heard from the installation. Source believed that unit returned from a maneuver. Source did not observe any tanks or training between 1 and 7 October. On

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7. Between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m., on 8 October, tanks, which returned from the maneuver, were seen entering the Horn Kaserne and the Hindenburg Kaserne. Between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. on 11 October, units returning from the maneuvers were seen on Muellroser Landstrasse; they proceeded toward the Buelow Kaserne and Artillerie Kaserne via Nuhnenstrasse. The columns included about 25 to 30 x 45-mm AT guns, about 50 trucks occupied by a total of about 500 troops, about 10 trucks carrying billeting equipment, 10 trucks towing field kitchens, 3 repair shop trucks, guns and tanks.

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8. On 15 October, the Artillerie Kaserne was occupied by about 800 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Eight 76-mm AA guns were seen at the northern edge of the barracks area. On 12 October, an undetermined number of troops practiced marching in the barracks area. Motor vehicles were seen en route to and from the installation.

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9. On 15 October, the Buelow Kaserne was occupied by about 400 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Between 8 and 15 October, 10 x 76-mm AT guns and 10 x 57-mm AT guns were seen in the barracks yard. On 8 and 10 October, source did not observe any training activity in the barracks area. On 15 October, about 30 troops engaged in physical training. Trucks were seen entering and leaving the barracks installation.

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10. On 15 October, the Eichhorn Kaserne was occupied by about 350 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. Source did not observe any training activity.

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11. On 15 October, the Hindenburg Kaserne was occupied by about 300 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. On 12 and 15 October, intensive activity but no training were observed in the barracks area. Motor vehicles were seen entering and leaving the installation.

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12. On 15 October, the Horn Kaserne was occupied by about 400 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Twenty-five tanks were seen in the barracks area. At about 4:30 p.m. on 9 October, 12 tanks entered the installation, coming from the military ramp. On 15 October, source did not observe any training activity. Trucks were seen en route to and from the installation.

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13. On 15 October, the Ziethen Kaserne was occupied by about 200 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. On 8 October, about 100 troops were clearing up the barracks area and were maintaining several trucks. On 15 October, source did not observe any training activity.¹

14. During the period under review, source determined that the Schmidt-Rosengarten sawmill and carpentry, which employed about 100 workmen, got an order for windows, doors and floors for barracks installations under construction in Lieberose and Kuedersdorf.

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1. [REDACTED] Comment. The present information, to a certain degree, supports the previously carried and/or assumed distribution of units in the barracks installations in Frankfurt/Oder, which, with the 7th Gds Mecz Div differed from that prior to the summer training period. See

[REDACTED] The retransfer from Lieberose of tank units of the division on 3 trains had already been indicated [REDACTED] on 9 October. The troops observed on 11 October presumably were units of the 25th Gds Mecz Regt of the Div, which may have returned from exercises of the division, probably in the area east of Fuerstenwalde. Although, according to information by other sources, these exercises were still under way on 15 October, they, as well as the employment in Berlin of presumably a mechanized regiment of the division, would account for the rather light occupation of the barracks installations of the division in mid-October.

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[REDACTED] Sources of paragraphs 1 to 3 and 8 to 14 had also differed considerably on the occupation strength of the Eichhorn Kaserne in the first mentioned reference report. As the installation is believed to include transient quarters for the personnel exchange, this barracks may quarter a considerably number of troops temporarily stationed there, in addition to occupation of about 400 troops of a guard and komendatura unit.

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